

## Message Text

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ACTION SMI-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-06 /018 W

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R 281005Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9566

UNCLAS KABUL 7208

E.O. 11652: NA

SUBJ: VISIT OF DR. DAVID CHALLINOR, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

REFS: KABUL 7013, STATE 232320

1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING TO DR. CHALLINOR FROM AMBASSADOR.

2. FOLLOWING ARE SOME THOUGHTSON YOUR SCHEDULE IN AFGHANISTAN.  
YOU CAN MAKE OFFICIAL CALLS I WOULD RECOMMEND IN ONE DAY AND  
DEVOYE OTHER TWO DAYS TO SEEING SOME OF COUNTRY. SUGGEST  
SCEDULE CALLS OCT 25, SEEING IN MORNING MINISTER OF  
INFORMATION AND CULTURE, DIRECTOR CULTURAL RELATIONS MFA,  
AND ARCHAEOLOGY INSTITUTE; AFTERNOON CALL ON RECTOR OF KABUL  
UNIVERSITY AND VISIT KABUL MUSEUM. (UNFORTUNATELY KEY  
OFFICIAL IN MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND CULTURE FOR OUR  
DISCUSSIONS ON ARCHAEOLOGY EXPECTS TO BE OUT OF COUNTRY  
DURING PERIOD OF YOUR VISIT. BUT WE CAN ACCOMPLISH PLENTY  
EVEN IN HIS ABSENCE.)

3. FOR SIGHTSEEING, ONE POSSIBILITY IS TO VISIT BAMIAN, SITE  
OF RENOWNED STATUES AND OTHER REMNANTS OF BUDDHIST CULTURE.  
DUE UNFAVORABLE AIR SCHEDULES THIS WOULD INVOLVE ARDUOUS  
BUT SCENIC SIX HOUR JOURNEY BY CAR 26TH MORNING. YOU COULD  
SPEND AFTERNOON SIGHTSEEING AND MAKE 45 MINUTE PLANE TRIP BACK  
TO KABUL EARLY MORNING 27TH. REST OF 27TH COULD BE DEVOTED  
TO KABUL AND VICINITY. AN ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM COULD INCLUDE  
INSTEAD OF BAMIAN ONE DAY VISIT TO GHAZNI AND RETURN, SEEING  
MUSEUM AND NEARBY ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES OF INTEREST,  
THEN SECOND OUTING NEXT DAY TO PICTURESQUE ISTALIF AND 11,000  
FOOT HIGH SALANG TUNNEL IN HINDU KUSH.

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4. IF YOU ARE IN POSITION TO MODIFY PLANS FOR OCT 28  
TRIP TO ISLAMABAD, I RECOMMEND STOP ENROUTE TO SEE  
BEAUTIFUL GANDHARAN PERIOD EXCAVATIONS AT HADDA. IN  
THIS EVENT, INSTEAD OF DRIVING WHOLE DISTANCE, YOU SHOULD  
CACH PK-635 AT 1950 HOURS PESHAWAR TO ISLAMABAD, ARRIVING  
2030.

5. I PROPOSE GIVE DINNER IN YOUR HONOR EVENING OF 27TH.  
IF YOU ARE IN TOWN 26TH EVENING PAO WOULD ALSO LIKE TO  
INVITE YOU FOR REPRESENTATIONAL FUNCTION.

6. WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING YOUR COMMENTS. UNFORTUNATELY,  
SIMULTANEOUS VISIT OF AMBASSADOR SAXBE WILL PREVENT MY  
JOINING YOUR TRAVEL PARTY, BUT WE WILL SEE MUCH OF EACH  
OTHER IN KABUL.

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